GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3758
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014
PROCUREMENT OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES UNDER MIS
Birla Shri Om

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any criteria or guidelines prescribed for procurement of agriculture produce, fruits and vegetables under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in the country;

(b) if so, the agriculture products, fruits and vegetables which have been procured under the said Scheme during each of the last three years along with their rates and quantity separately;

(c) whether there is always an uncertainty about the rates of agriculture products, fruits and vegetables in the country due to middlemen;

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to formulate any concrete action plan to prescribe the rates of the agriculture products, fruits and vegetables; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government of India has formulated guidelines for implementation of Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in 2001. The guidelines stipulate that the `MIS shall be made applicable and sanctioned only in a situation when there is an increase of at least 10% in the production over the previous year`s normal production or if there is reduction in the market prices by at least 10% over the rates of previous normal season. "A statement indicating the details of the MIS sanctioned during the last three years along with their rates and quantity is annexed.

(c) to (e): There is no doubt that due to fluctuation in production of fruits and vegetables, the market determined price for these products are prone to uncertainty both for the benefit or detriment of producers and the consumers. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of those agricultural produce are fixed which are.
(i) non-perishable in nature
(ii) an item of mass consumption
(iii) essential for food security
(iv) do not have widely varying cost of production and
(v) widely grown having large area under cultivation. Since, the fruits and vegetables do not fulfill the said criteria, it has not found possible to fix MSP for these produces.